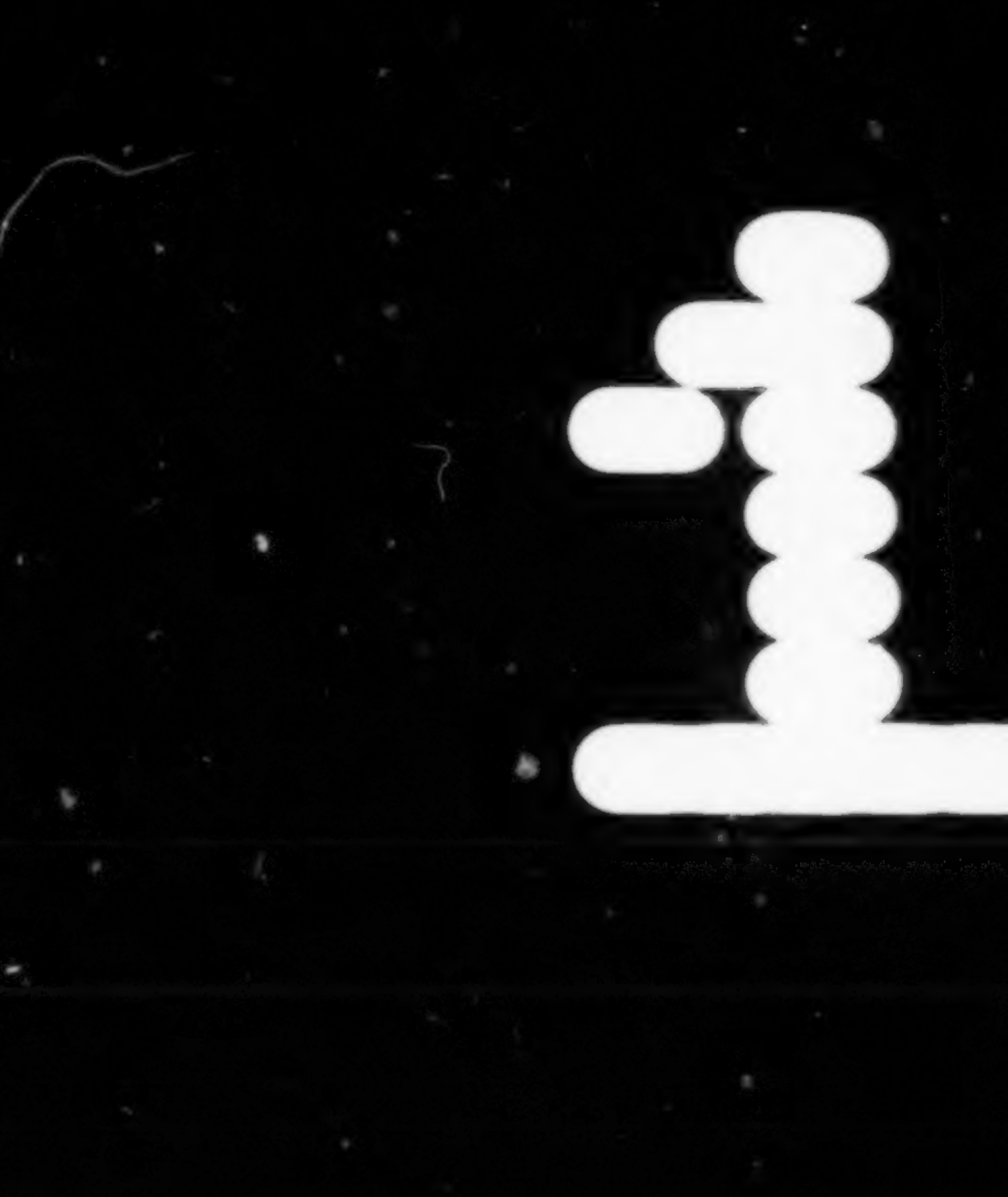

Daily Report

Latin America

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Friday
30 December 1988

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FBIS-LAT-88-251 *30 December 1988*

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Cerezo Confirms Presidents Meeting 15-16 Jan

PA2912050288 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0345 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo confirmed today that a Central American presidents' summit meeting will be held in San Salvador 15-16 January.

Cerezo said: The shared ideal to keep struggling for peace is still our goal. This is why we expect the meeting to be held as scheduled.

In addition, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alfonso Cabrera said consultations are being held so the technical commission of foreign ministers' advisers can meet prior to the presidents' meeting. The commission is composed of representatives from Canada, Spain, the FRG, and the OAS.

Nicaragua, Costa Rica on Technical Agreements

PA2212222188 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Dec 88 pp 1, 5

[Unattributed report]

[Text] The Nicaraguan and Costa Rican technical commissions, which are following up the agreements signed on 24 November in San Juan del Sur, stated yesterday at the conclusion of an assessment meeting in San Jose, that they were "greatly satisfied" with compliance with the agreements.

In a joint communique signed by Colonel Roberto Calderon, chief of the EPS 5th Military Region, and Marino Sagot, a Costa Rican Public Security Ministry senior official, the two delegations proposed holding another top-level meeting between Nicaraguan [Interior Minister] Commander Tomas Borge Martinez and Costa Rican Public Security Minister Hernan Garron in Managua on 14 and 15 February 1989. The commissions also reaffirmed their willingness to continue coordinated patrols along the border areas "to guarantee normalcy at the borders and combat criminal activities."

At the same time, the commissions agreed to continue antidrug operations in their border areas and to establish an efficient information exchange mechanism to combat drug trafficking.

The San Jose talks were described as "fraternal, open, and frank," and their results are regarded as an indication of the success in practical and quantitative terms achieved in San Juan del Sur with the agreements signed between ministers Borge and Garron.

On another matter, it was agreed to implement "an expeditious system for the return of Nicaraguans who do not qualify as refugees." Regarding this sensitive issue for both countries, the Nicaraguan Government reiterated its willingness to cooperate with the Costa Rican authorities to seek solutions to the problem of uncontrolled emigration.

The delegates also agreed to propose a system to streamline visa procedures "to facilitate the legal flow of citizens from the two countries."

In San Jose, Col Calderon, chief of the Nicaraguan delegation, met with Costa Rican Public Security Minister Hernan Garron and Government Minister Antonio Alvarez Desanti.

At the conclusion of the talks, the Nicaraguan delegation thanked the Costa Rican Government for all its consideration. The delegation noted its government's willingness to continue expanding the ties of friendship and cooperation with the Costa Rican people and government.

Saul Arana, Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, termed the proposal for another top level meeting in Managua as a sign of the goodwill of the two governments in their progress toward a solution to the problems affecting their two countries.

Cuba

Castro Discusses Housing, Transportation at ANPP

FL2912193688 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1404 GMT 23 Dec 88

["Summary" of 1st day of the Fourth Regular Session of the Third National Assembly of the People's Government, ANPP, in Havana's Palace of Conventions on 22 December—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified speaker No 1] The fulfillment of these objectives and the analysis of the practical experiences gained in their application indicates that the necessary conditions exist for the presentation to this assembly of the draft for a new law that will facilitate a solution to the country's housing problem while resolving the deficiencies or errors detected in the process of applying the current law. The general housing law has not been exempt from any of the defects that the current rectification process is fighting throughout the country.

Conceived, among other objectives, to complete the urban reform law in the sense that our people are the proprietors of housing, it is part of the principle that the home, as personal property, can be an object that can be freely disposed of by its proprietor. Control mechanisms and exchange operations were developed for this and for uninhabited homes, for their sale, exchange, or acquisition [words indistinct], etcetera, which, in conjunction with a large amount of money, easily obtained by certain individuals, has prompted lucrative activities to develop in the housing area.

As a way of solving the housing problem, it was decided to create temporary cooperatives for the construction of housing. The construction would be done by the people themselves with the free sale of materials without necessarily giving priority to the workers, getting around [soslayando] the decisive participation of the state with the support of the masses who were organized into minibrigades which, because of the characteristics of our country, represent the principal method of increasing the plan for the construction of homes and social projects, as well as for the repair and reconstruction of apartment buildings.

In summary, a free market was created for housing as one more type of merchandise that generated speculative operations. This was done for lucrative reasons and enrichment thus making unnatural the social role of housing and its reason for existing as a personal item for the use of the family. It also gave the proprietors plenty of opportunities to force anyone out of the home, with the single exception of the [words indistinct] and descendants which created sociopolitical problems in its application.

The home is a personal property item which is a right guaranteed to the citizen by the Constitution and the law, including the inheritance law. However, in socialism, during the specific conditions of our country, homes fulfill a social function and one cannot lose sight in any regulation on this matter the aspects that make this function unnatural or affect the interest of the [words indistinct].

After analyzing the negative tendencies confronted in the application of the general housing law, a study was conducted to present solutions to those aspects related to the application of this law which have originated or can originate lucrative operations or certain political-social problems. Of all the aspects evaluated, a group of these factors have at least been provisionally resolved through steps taken by the institution itself. This has been done.

Another group of factors requires a higher standard of legal action because they deal with modifications to the current law. With this purpose, based on a draft presented by the National Housing Institute, a commission was created that evaluated the observations made in the draft circulated to the organizations of the central administration of the state, people's government, and mass organizations. The draft described the plan that was recently presented to the Politburo of the PCC Central Committee, which approved it for presentation to the ANPP for consideration, with the new observations made by this organ.

This has led to a process of discussion and analysis of the current law during which successive versions of the draft were made and circulated to the organizations and local organs of the people's government incorporating a considerable number of observations made.

The draft that we are presenting, taking into account the experiences gained from the application of the law during these past 4 years and seeking solutions to the errors and negative tendencies that we have stated, contains new goals, substantial modifications, and ordinance changes in reference to the current law. Thus, this makes the draft presented to the assembly a new draft law and not a modification.

The principal changes are:

Beginning with the chapter pertaining to the construction and repair of homes, minibrigades have been added as the primary means of increasing the construction of homes thus replacing the section in the current law referring to the temporary cooperatives. This assures the right of the workers to have the priority to construct and maintain their homes.

The regulations on the transfer of occupied housing property are moved to the Transitory Dispositions section once the General Housing Law is approved. This is due to two fundamental reasons: First of all, that process is practically concluded. Secondly, this allows the reorganization of the content of the law in accordance with its new objectives.

Two main rules on the occupation of housing have been established. The current one pertains to personal property which is intended to transfer the property once the contract is signed. The rule on renting, when it is of interest to the state, has been added. This will allow greater flexibility in transferring homes that are state property. It allows for the prior approval of all transfers of undeveloped lots giving the state the right of priority to acquire it. It fixes a more adequate price on lots per square meter and gives the proprietors of undeveloped lots in areas of urban restrictions the opportunity to request an exchange for another state-owned lot or allows the proprietor to sell his lot to the state for its legal price.

The proprietors right to freely decide who will live with him in the house remains a characteristic of the property as stated in article 64. Nevertheless, there is no reason for the state to have to confront the consequences of that free determination. When it comes to terminating that cohabitation, the state offers the proprietor a legal route and economic measures can be applied without the need to make a commitment on the renter's physical removal except when it deals with individuals who clearly display antisocial conduct. Also exempt are those cases of individuals with possible rights to occupy the home and others who necessarily have to be protected by society or whose removal would appear to be an act of injustice or an inhumane act.

This law maintains that the exchange between proprietors is independent but allows for the possibility of having this challenged in the tribunals by those affected or by the municipal housing administration. It also allows for mandatory exchanges as a form of liquidating joint property.

The law incorporates the special rule which will affect houses located in areas highly significant to national or international tourism in the interest of preserving these zones for the enjoyment of our people and to increase the amount of income for the country's economic and social development. A chapter has been created on the homes affected by this special rule. This includes homes in rural areas as a matter of state priority for the purpose of increasing the standard of living of the agricultural workers and peasants and to stabilize the work force that guarantees the development of agricultural-livestock production.

Disciplinary measures have been established against those who violate the law and those who engage in antisocial conduct while at the same time protecting the right of the working people to their homes.

In addition to resolving the problems previously mentioned, the draft law has attempted to make compatible the rights of the housing proprietors with the social role these fulfill. That is why, in addition to the normal regulations, other regulations have been included of an ethical and moral nature which confirm the principles of the revolution and of our people on the matter of the occupation of a home and its use.

[Castro] What we propose here with regard to the draft law is [rephrases].. and I use as an example point No 3 which talks about Article No 44. I would like to know what this change consists of and convince me that it is correct. It says that should the second paragraph of Article No 44 not (?modified) it would be written like this: Should the corresponding payments not be made within a 3-month period because of chargeable reasons, the occupant will loose the right to acquire the home and then he will become a tenant. This is a procedure in accordance with the current law. While in the draft law it reads: In No 44, it says that should the corresponding payments not be made 3 months after renting for chargeable reasons, the occupant can be declared illegal at the request of the savings bank in accordance with article 112 of this paper.

Could someone from housing explain what this change means? What does this mean—that the occupant will become a renter and not an illegal occupant? What does this change consist of? Where is [word indistinct]?

[Several unidentified speakers respond] Here.

[Castro] Explain that. It is in report No 3 which is to modify Article No 44.

[Unidentified speaker No 2] The essence of the change is to not declare an occupant illegal for nonpayment, instead to seize his goods. [Words indistinct] the essence of the change.

[Castro] [Word indistinct] the individual?

[Unidentified speaker No 2] Yes.

[Castro] Why so much kindness? Why do we slacken the law in favor of seizing? We are not talking about (?he) who cannot pay but he who does not want to pay. [Video shows Castro pounding on table] Why did the commission do this? Tell me?

[Unidentified speaker No 3] Commader, our commission examined this. We made that proposal for the following reasons. First of all, the citizen who doesn't pay is charged with a violation. The first violation is that the citizen who was paying to acquire the property loses the right to become a proprietor when he disobeys this for reasons chargeable to him. When he loses the right to become a proprietor, he continues paying as a renter without having the possibility of acquiring property [passage indistinct]

We noticed that the way it was written in the [words indistinct] draft law, (?he) was declared illegal. When looking into what declaring an occupant illegal meant, we noted that the state by declaring an occupant illegal

had to give him a solution. One of the solutions was [passage indistinct] For example, a citizen who occupies a home, before the law of 1985 was in effect, he would have to be [passage indistinct] or exchange it for a good house but with lesser conditions. However, if we are dealing with an occupation after 1985, the relocation of that citizen to his place of origin was immediate. In other words, when he was declared an illegal occupant, the municipal housing directorate, and in this case the state, was forced to provide a solution—as discussed in articles 111 and 112 which deal with the handling of illegal occupation.

I agree with you in that, to a certain extent, the citizen will be allowed to continue living in the home, and that he will continue being there without anything being done to him.

[Castro] What about if he is a bum or a [word indistinct] who doesn't work? What about if he is one of those who is running around stealing, making deals, and standing in lines at stores to earn his living? What kind of resources can the state get from an individual like that?

[Unidentified speaker No 3] Commander, that type of case is dealt with differently. What you are talking about...

[Castro interrupting] [Word indistinct] a bum and doesn't work. How are you going to get anything from him?

[Unidentified speaker No 3] Commander, allow me to refer to article... [turns and asks someone else for the article number] Well, from what I can recall by memory, when a citizen does not have financial income in a situation such as this one, the goods he has are seized.

[Castro] What kind of goods would a person like this have?

[Unidentified speaker No 3] Well, he does have the home and something inside of it to live with.

[Castro] What are you going to take? Are you going to take the kitchen, furniture or what?

[Unidentified speaker No 3] That is what the law establishes.

[Castro] What if he is declared an illegal occupant?

[Unidentified speaker No 3] Well, if he is an illegal occupant, he is dealt with differently. As I was telling you, it is in Articles 111 and 115 [corrects herself] Articles 111 and 112. He is treated differently as an illegal occupant. At that time, the administration has to begin taking action and find a solution. It reads: Article 111, page 33—According to this law, occupants are considered illegal, and they will be declared as such by the corresponding municipal housing directorate, whether those persons have or have not [as heard] previously been declared illegal, and whether or not they are paying for the occupation of the home, and the nonpayment has occurred prior to 1 January 1985.

Then it shows the cases under which a person is declared an illegal occupant. Article 112 says:

The corresponding municipal housing directorate will resolve the situation of the illegal occupants refered to in the previous article with one of the following measures:
A - The reintegration of the illegal occupants to their home of origin.
B - Should the above not be feasible, the relocation of the illegal occupants to another state home or room which is available.
C - Should options A and B not be feasible, the home occupied illegally can be assigned, in accordance with the established policy and order of priority, to another person who legitimately occupies a home or room and is willing to move to the one which was illegally occupied, thus giving his home or room to the state in which the illegal occupant will be placed.

[Castro] That is correct. A declaration of illegal is more severe. So the individual has [word indistinct] he is sent elsewhere. If the room is a poorly made one, there is nothing that can be done about it. But if he has a home in good condition, it is best to ask someone who has a room to move to the home. Then you can send the other individual to the room. I think that this is a slackening of the legal treatment of individuals who do not comply and who do not want to comply with the law, because they have no shame. I do not think this is beneficial to us. [passage indistinct] I don't know if there is anyone who can show us that the treatment proposed by the commission is better than the other. At least, if it provided an option, or a [word indistinct], or one thing or another which included the two ideas. [passage indistinct] If it said... [shifts thought] Article 44, [words indistinct]... the occupant will remain in the same as a renter, and will proceed in accordance with the [word indistinct] of the current law. I see this as the case of the shameless person—the bum. These are the ones who make a mess of things and complicate everyone's lives. Therefore, he will be able to remain [words indistinct]. What is the (?theory) behind that?

[Unidentified speaker No 4] I wanted to say that these drastic measures are taken with an individual who is able to pay but does not pay. For the person who is declared without an income for any reason, such as illness, there are other solutions. We are talking about an individual who has the money and does not want to meet his obligations to the state.

So why should we allow him to occupy a home when there are other workers, people in the country who would pay but do not have access to that home? Like you said, I think a solution could be found. The People's Assembly could look at the problem and give him a period of time in which

to pay. If he doesn't pay within that period of time, then he can be declared an illegal occupant. This solution—which modifies this article and has been proposed here—legalizes nonpayment by the individual. When he stops paying, he can stay as a renter. As a renter, will he pay if he is already not paying as a proprietor?

[Castro] [Words indistinct] the measure is applied to a few, the problem is resolved.

[Unidentified speaker No 4] Of course, because this is not the case of a person who has become sick and can no longer pay. The law has solutions for that kind of problem. This is simply the case of the individual who is able to pay and does not want to pay.

[Castro] Have the people from housing come across a lot of those cases?

[Unidentified speaker No 5] Well, there are approximately 9,000 (?reported) cases in which they have not payed the ...

[Castro, interrupting] And what is done about it?

[Unidentified speaker No 5] Seizure of goods.

[Castro] What do you seize?

[Unidentified speaker No 5] Seizure with a 10 percent surcharge.

[Castro] But what do you seize?

[Unidentified speaker No 5] His salary. The work center...

[Castro, interrupting] What if he doesn't work? [repeats himself]

[Unidentified speaker No 5] Well, we can take legal proceedings for collection, which, as you have said, have not been applied. We have not applied them. It is difficult when they do not have a work center, and they constantly change places. That is a reality.

[Castro] The cases which make up this phenomenon are a minority.

[Unidentified speaker No 5] I think that 6 months... [rephrases] or 3 months after nonpayment, he should be declared a renter. Then, as is stated here, he can be declared an illegal occupant for the unjustified nonoccupation of the home in excess of 6 months, or for the nonpayment for which the renter is responsible. In other words, it would be possible for us to have two levels.

[Castro] Couldn't you (?add): One measure or another will be applied? You could even declare... [rephrases] consider him a renter and take legal proceedings for collection; or he could additionally be declared illegal. The two alternatives should be established.

[Unidentified speaker No 5] That is right.

[Castro] But not the way it is here; the way this is written is too kind. I propose [words indistinct] more options. However, these options should include one which is more drastic for the cases of the individuals who are not paying and do not have any resourses. I propose that both of these measures be included on this vague point. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified speaker No 6] [Words indistinct] Comrade Fidel. What does the commission say about that?

[Unidentified speaker No 7] I think it is possible, because that gives us the option to evaluate [words indistinct] cases, because not all cases are alike. I think that there are cases in which by taking away the right of proprietorship and leaving an individual as a renter for life is in fact sanctioning the person. However, there are cases which need more drastic measures because they are truly individuals who do not deserve any kind of concessions from society. I think that this will work. On the one hand, the individual is sanctioned in one way. On the other, if the case is more serious, it allows the state organization responsible for the case to evaluate the problem. I think this will work. I think that by evaluating the two things, it will give a broader frame in which to evaluate the case in question. [Camera turns to reporter for this meeting]

[Reporter] The 480 deputies who are attending this meeting at the Palace of Conventions approved a greeting to educators. Severo Aguirre del Criso, ANNPP acting president, requested a moment of silence as a posthumous hommage to a deputy of [passage indistinct] Efigenio Ameijeira, and that Luis Mendez Morejon, current ANPP secretary will carry out other responsibilities.

After the approval of this document and of the draft law for the day, Diocles Torralba began reading the Ministry of Transportation [Mintrans] progress report.

[Diocles Torralba] All the work carried out until now was aimed at turning the activities for the progress report to the assembly into a powerful mass movement. It is with great satisfaction that we can inform you today that these objectives were fulfilled thanks to the enthusiastic participation of the majority of [words indistict] (?200,000) technical workers and leaders [words indistinct] transportation, along with the work carried out by the two national unions for our field. [Camera turns to another reporter for this meeting]

[Reporter No 2] The progress report given by the Mintrans to the ANPP covered important subjects. The report included the ministry's achievements and problems, as well as the efforts that have been made to improve passenger and cargo transportation. It also emphasizes that the gross production of its enterprise system exceeds 850 million pesos this year. The Mintrans contributed 64 million pesos this year in [word indistict] earnings, that is to say, 15 million more than last year.

[Torralba] And finally we believe that the decision for our ministry to give a progress report was a wise decision, and that it has given great results. We are certain that with the contribution of the assembly, we will be able to work on, with greater efficiency, the (?difficult) tasks which the revolution has put in our hands.

[Castro] How much more expensive is it to transport a citizen on an omnibus than on a train?

[Unidentified speaker No 8] Well, you see Commander, once you have the road, the omnibus is infinitely cheaper. Because the [words indistinct] the road; the depreciation is charged to the railroad which is the only user. However, the depreciation and costs of the roads in the country (?are charged) to the buses, cars, and omnibuses. That is why the railroad is not cost-effective.

[Castro] Then, what I understand is that it is much more economical to transport cargo and passengers by [word indistinct] railroad. [Camera goes to reporter No 1]

[Reporter No 1] The morning session began with the reading of a message sent to Comrade Fidel.

[Unidentified speaker reads message] We have received with satisfaction in the Soviet Union the signing at the UN Headquarters in New York the agreements for the solution of the southwest Africa conflict which resulted from the intense negotiations between Angola and Cuba with the Republic of South Africa.

I congratulate you for this event which is the first but very important step toward peace and security in the southern Africa region. It became possible due to Cuba's year-long and heroic assistance in Angola's struggle for independence and freedom.

I would like to highlight the dynamic diplomatic activity of the Republic of Cuba and your personal effort Comrade Fidel, which have allowed a political solution to the most acute regional conflict.

As a result, a prospect of peaceful development and of a strengthening of the political and economic independence of the states situated in the region is opening up before southwest Africa.
Fraternally,
Mikhail Gorbachev [applause] [Camera returns to reporter No 1]

[Reporter No 1] A good part of the day was dedicated to the progress report of the ministry of [passage indistinct].

[Castro] [Words indistinct] the specific handling of problems. So, that point has been clarified. Why don't we ask someone to tell us about the problems of the roads in the capital? What are the problems? There has been talk about that for a long time now.

[Unidentified speaker No 9] In the capital we have 2,649 km of road. However, when we refer here to the problems we have, they have been worsening in the past few months. The problem lies in a certain contradiction we have been talking about. The El Gato acqueduct was built to improve the benefits of water supply to the capital, and above all for it to reach areas in San Miguel del Padron and Guanabacoa which had problems with the water distribution. Sometimes those areas would get water once every 4 days, and now they get it daily. However, that which is a benefit for the population, creates potholes and even causes problems with the (?sewers).

[Reporter No 1] During the discussion on transportation, a delegate expressed his concern over the state of some omnibus terminals in Granma province which have been under construction for 10 years. Delegate Fidel Castro gave his opinion on this.

[Castro] Everytime I see one of those construction projects with a few columns set up and grass underneath, I suffer. They give a bad impression. This is a problem that everyone should be concerned about. [Word indistinct] the ministry. A minister (?should) do everything he can to resolve a problem like that. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified speaker No 10] [Words indistinct] investments [word indistinct] are also planned to be executed by the enterprise itself, with the will of the municipality and the province. In other words, aside from what the Ministry of Construction is going to do, we are also going to expand the current terminals. In addition to that, we are also going to rebuild 18 old terminals which the city had and now are being used for something else. This is the solution we are proposing. With the receipt of the omnibuses which will be assigned to us, the buses which are going to be built in Guanajay, and the buses which we are also scheduled to arrive from Yugoslavia in 1989's plan, all these buses will help, especially during rush hours. Based on the experience we have gained, especially with the aid of small omnibuses, the Giron 6 (?from) the work centers which have helped, especially during the rush hour in the city, we can see they have made a difference and above all have contributed to transportation during rush hours.

[Castro] [Word indistinct] is the most expensive in the world because these buses, which are using up fuel, are a headache. Now, I hear that you have established a route, also a [word indistinct], and a route for taxis.

[Unidentified speaker No 10] Yes, a taxi with route.

[Castro] So, what is a taxi with route? Is it also a [word indistinct] taxi?

[Unidentified speaker No 10] No it is not.

[Castro] Tell me, what is a taxi with route?

[Unidentified speaker No 10] We have 11 routes and [passage indistinct]. They go from one destination point to another, commander.

[Castro] They come and go?

[Unidentified speaker No 10] Yes, they come and go on the same route.

[Castro] Well, if you decide on a taxi for 3 or 4 people, from one destination point to another, wouldn't it be more reasonable to use some kind of a minibus for [number indistinct] passengers? [Passage indistinct] with a Roman engine. I wonder if this is possible? If it was, we could designate a number of buses for this. At the exposition, I saw some good and economical Roman engines which could be used on a (SIL-130) or on a Giron 6. What really concerns me about the Giron 6 is [words indistinct] gas, 8km, 9km, 10km. Now, if this works, or if it is considered useful, a man in a taxi [passage indistinct]. Couldn't we combine the use of rigid and articulated buses with the use of other smaller or express buses? They would even stop (?if) there are seats available and people are on the road waiting to take it. The cost of the fair would even be different. Couldn't the Giron 6 with petroleum engines be helpful to transportation?

[Reporter No 1] The individual and collective responsibility for the payment of the omnibus fair has been a main topic during this ANPP.

[Unidentified speaker No 11] I also use this opportunity to bring up another matter and say that we know that 25 percent of the population, in other words approximately 1 million passengers, do not pay the omnibus fair. This happens because of the problems which occur during rush hour. However, sometimes even outside of rush hour, people do not pay. I think this a matter for which the level of control and requirements must be raised by the drivers. We must also appeal to the conscience of the people's social duty who must contribute with the payment of the omnibus fair. Furthermore, according to the information we have, this is the cheapest transportation fair in the world. It continues to be the cheapeast transporation for everyone, and it is not being payed.

[Castro] That is a problem which must be solved one way or another. I am convinced of this. There are tens of thousands of pesos lost. Let's see what kind of measures are taken, direct or indirect. This simply cannot be allowed. But what measures must we take? I am certain that the state can find the measures. However, we cannot allow for tens of millions [as heard] of pesos being circulated without the state using them for what it needs, for its obligations. We must look at this problem thoroughly, and we must find a solution. We are talking about tens of millions of pesos which are not being paid.

[Unidentified speaker No 12] There are several opinions on this, commander. There is even an experiment which is going to be carried out in Cienfuegos Province.

[Castro] No, they have been experimenting with that (?idea) of the ticket for a long time now. But who says that that ticket idea is going to work? If you have to put the ticket in a little machine, who will have the discipline to put that ticket in the machine? They (?call) it an experiment, but it is a theory. But the revolution must find a solution to that problem. We will see what happens, or we will not invest another single cent. We either do away with several (?gratuities) here, or increase some prices, but we cannot leave this unpunished. We must put some order to the law, (?even) if we have to put a man there. [repeats himself] [applause] [Camera goes to unidentified speaker outside of assembly room; it does not show whom speaker is addressing]

[Unidentified speaker No 13] We are satisfied with the report. We understand that the ministry has been very critical and very objective. It has truly analyzed, evaluated the situation which exists in our country with regards to the deficiencies and achievements in transportation.

[Reporter No 2] What do you think of the future of Cuba's transportation?

[Unidentified speaker No 14, outside assembly room] I think that the report and the discussion which followed during the assembly give an idea of the great effort that is being made by our party's leadership in ensuring the necessary resources, despite the limitations we have, to attain what we need for the solutions to the transportation problems. The action of the workers has had an impact. I think these workers have shown that they are committed and ready to solve the problems and face them with the determination asked for by our people, our government, and our party.

[Reporter No 2] What conclusions did you reach after the debate?

[Unidentified speaker No 15] I think that the emphasis, both by the delegates as well as by the commander in chief, has permitted a solid evaluation of the complexity of transportation. It has been shown that the solutions to transportation are not simple. The solutions require an integration of policy and (?technology). They require a serious effort toward the solution of material problems, although the problems may be often plagued by (?subjective) aspects. In each one of the situations, we have

actually seen how there has been a technical emphasis which underlined the fact that each of the steps taken should be very well studied and analyzed. The emphasis has been very realistic. I think that this debate opens a perspective for transportation with an emphasis on progress.

Castro 'Best Man' at Wedding for 24 Couples

FL3012032988 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0012 GMT 30 Dec 88

[Report by Juan Carlos Roque Garcia from the Miguel Henriquez Hospital in Havana during "Exclusivo" program hosted by Daniel Torres]

[Excerpts] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro was the symbolic best man [padrino simbolico] at the wedding this afternoon of 24 couples, who were construction workers who participated in building the Miguel Henriquez Hospital expansion in Havana. [passage omitted]

After the couples signed the marriage register, the commander in chief cut the cake, which was a floor-by-floor replica of the building. Amid the cameras' flashes recording this moment, Fidel dedicated a few words to the 24 couples who were married here.

[Begin Castro recording] This moment is a moment of commitment. The marriages have been completed. I hope you fulfill all those things mentioned in the code. [laughter] You committed yourselves here in front of all these people to fulfilling the family code. [Couples respond: Yes!] Above all, I hope you are very happy. [Couples respond: Thank you very much.]

Fatherland or death! [Couples respond: We will win!] [end recording]

Friends of "Exclusivo," the highest leader of the Cuban revolution spoke of the satisfaction he felt for these proletariat weddings in which members of the construction workers contingent responsible for building the expansion united their lives after earning prestige for the building of an installation that will render services to half a million people.

After signing each one of the albums, Daniel, Fidel spoke with some of the newlyweds.

[Begin Castro recording] Where do you work?

[Unidentified woman] I'm a technician in the [words indistinct].

[Castro] You're a technician.

[Woman] I'm a technician.

[Castro] Do you work in the energy section?

[Woman] Yes.

[Unidentified man] We began working here. When we started, we were assistants.

[Castro] When did you graduate?

[Man] I graduated in 1980. I studied in the Soviet Union.

[Castro] What did you study, energy?

[Man] I studied thermopyshical engineering.

[Castro] What kind of a wide scope application does that have? What can we do with that?

[Man] In reality, we are giving a lot of (?attention) to nonconventional energy. I was working in the Construction Ministry in the Energy Department on the new energy prospects the country is undertaking. I was working on short- and long-term plans for saving energy. That was my specific function in the ministry before I became a member here in the contingent.

[Castro] And were you here a whole year?

[Man] No, I was here for over a year. I had other responsibilities later.

[Castro] Were you here at the end?

[Man] Yes, I was here as chief of transportation.

[Castro] And where will you go now?

[Man] Well, commander....

[Castro] Will you follow the contingent?

[Man] Yes, I will follow the contingent.

[Castro] Will all of you follow the contingent? The contingent is splitting up. Part of it will go to Varadero and the other part will go build the installations for the Pan American Games. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Friendship Organizations Condemn U.S. Threats

FL2912160088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] The Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples and the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association have issued a statement condemning the U.S. President's threats on the sister Libyan nation. These threats further evidence of the usual arrogance of U.S. imperialism. Since it is powerless for not being able to change the progressive and patriotic course of the Libyan revolution, it appeals to its military might and to intimidation. At this time, when threats against Libya are being made, the Cuban people reaffirm their solidarity with this sister nation and urge the progressive forces of the world to join efforts in halting imperialist attacks.

Shevardnadze-Camacho Aguilera Meeting Reported

FL2912192588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze received Cuban Ambassador to the USSR Julio Camacho Aguilera today. The Soviet foreign minister and the Cuban ambassador analyzed matters related to the state and outlook for developing Soviet-Cuban relations and other subjects of international interest.

Camacho Aguilera expressed Cuba's support to the constructive Soviet initiatives for the improvement of the situation in the world. For his part, Shevardnadze sincerely expressed gratitude for the aid provided by Cuba to the Armenia victims.

Argentine Legislator Praises Castro's Revolution

FL2912231288 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2057 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Miguel Monserrat, national deputy for the Intransigent Party of Argentina, said that the triumph of the Cuban revolution was a ray of hope for Latin America.

In his statements to PRENSA LATINA, the Argentine politician said the revolutionary triumph in Cuba has given people confidence. Also, the revolution's triumph has shown that it is possible to defeat the imperialist enemy and preserve the people's government, Monserrat said.

Without a doubt, Monserrat said, the Cuban revolution can still be seen in the Sandinist revolution and the struggle in El Salvador, as well as South America's democratic awakening in the face of fascism.

The Argentine legislator stressed that, throughout these 30 years, the Cuban Government has been an example in defending the free self-determination of nations.

Monserrat evoked Latin American revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara.

Havana Notes Haitian Priest's Appeal

FL2912221488 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2051 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Haitian Priest Jean Bertrand Aristide has appealed the instructions given to him by the Salesian Order expelling him from the order. He founded his sermon on Bible scriptures and speeches made by Pope John Paul II.

Aristide, a charismatic leader of the Haitian People's Church and opposer of the military dictatorships in his country, has been accused by the hierarchy of the Salesian Order of inciting his followers to hatred and violence.

The Salesian's attempt to have Aristide transferred to Canada was stopped last October by the people when they held large demonstrations. A month later, the order announced his expulsion. However, Ariside maintains his priestly robes.

his priestly robes.

Last 23 November, Aristide called on the poor to crush the powerful and called General Prosper Avril's military government unfit.

In his appeal, the priest said that the ecclesiastical hierarchy has eluded the facts.

Resolution for Rehabilitation of Workers Adopted

FL2912191088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] The State Committee for Labor and Social Security has adopted Resolution No 55 of 27 December 1988. It provides for work center leaders to be involved, under the terms and conditions established by the resolution, in the rehabilitation of workers who have been subjected to disciplinary measures. The leaders are authorized to remove the sentence or any other document regarding disciplinary measures contained in the worker's file.

This disposition is one more evidence of the confidence the revolution has in man and his rectification ability. Workers who will be rehabilitated because they have maintained good behavior after having complied with the disciplinary measure will now have to be identified.

The moral significance of this resolution will be explained to each laborer during a simple meeting. Then, all documents related to the disciplinary sanction will be removed from the work file. The work collective shows, in this way, the certainty it has that this comrade will continue to behave with the discipline and responsibility of workers in a socialist society.

Ceremony Marks Cauto Battle 30th Anniversary

FL2912162588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] The main ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the City of Cauto on 27 December has taken place in the last redoubt of the tyranny in that place, the Palma Hotel and its grounds. Esteban Lazo, member of the PCC Politburo, and Division General Sixto Batista, secretary of the PCC Central Committee, were present, as well as a broad representation of relatives of the martyrs and combatants of the battle which lasted several days and put the Rebel Army at the doors of Santiago.

Colonel Lino Carreras, who fulfilled successfully the mission assigned by Fidel of taking over the Palma police headquarters, remembered those fallen in the heroic action to which the Palma Soriano of today pays the best homage with its achievements in the economic,

social, and defense areas. Numerous projects and historic sites were inaugurated during the day. The historic sites were related to the battle which resulted in the liberation of Palma Soriano on 27 December 1958.

Haiti

France, FRG Grant Loans to Military Government

FL2912145088 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] France has loaned $9 million to Haiti, and West Germany has granted $3 million to the military government of Haiti to encourage a return to democratic rule. French aid was reduced following the November 1987 election day violence.

Jamaica

Affect of Manley's Remarks Investigated

FL2912215688 Bridgetown CANA in English 2350 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Dec 29, CANA—A special ombudsman appointed to keep the peace between Jamaica's two main political parties said on Thursday that comments made by opposition Peoples National Party President Michael Manley in an October speech might have led "misguided" party members into breaking a fragile peace accord forged this summer.

The Jamaica Labour Party had complained to ombudsman James Kerr that Manley had violated the peace agreement on October 23 when he suggested PNP party members march on JLP constituency headquarters if the PNP did not get its share of relief funds pouring into the island in the wake of Hurricane Gilbert. The speech was made during a week of squabble between the two parties over how the relief funds should be distributed.

Kerr said in a report to parliament released in Kingston that Manley's comments were an "improbability based upon improbability."

"The threat of confrontation was conditional...rested upon the happening of an event of remote possibility," Kerr remarked. But he said "there was a real risk that the misguided or disgruntled may interpret...his proposed course of action as imminent intention." Kerr commented that even peaceful demonstrations in Jamaica had a history of turning violent.

Shortly after the Manley speech, he and prime minister Edward Seaga met to discuss hurricane relief and other issues ultimately issuing a public declaration reaffirming their commitment to peaceful elections.

Seaga, who is trailing in public opinion polls, must call an election within the next three months.

Hundreds of Jamaicans died during the last campaign in 1980, but only a few deaths have been attributed to political violence so far this year.

"No harm has been done or is likely to occur from Mr. Manley's speeches in St Catherine," Kerr said in the special report. He urged the two leaders and all party members to discuss their differences and refrain from issuing threats.

"In the circumstances, I am of the view that this matter without further ado may safely be relegated to the past," he concluded.

The complaint about the Manley speech was the first to be handled by Kerr, who was appointed ombudsman after Manley and Seaga signed the peace accord in August.

Trinidad and Tobago

Junior Finance Minister on Debt Payments

FL2912210188 Bridgetown CANA in English 1631 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Dec 29, CANA—The Trinidad and Tobago government will not seriously consider suggestions that it refuse to pay its foreign debt or to accept economic development loans from the International Monetary fund (IMF), according to Junior Finance Minister Selby Wilson.

He also told the senate during a continuing debate on the 1989 national budget that establishing a debt ceiling on repayments independently of the international financial community could not be taken seriously.

"A small country like ours will seek to renege on its external obligations only at its own peril," Wilson said.

According to Wilson, new credit would be terminated and existing lines of credit which form the "lifeblood" of the private sector would have to be paid up and would "dry up" under such a scenario.

"In short, it is shortsighted and a self-defeating strategy and one which this NAR (National Alliance for Reconstruction) government would not consider," Wilson said.

Wilson's comments followed Trinidad and Tobago's move to take up a 14-month standby facility with the IMF.

Foreign commercial banks have already agreed to reschedule the commercial part of this country's foreign debt, bunched up for repayment over the next 3 years. Government is awaiting a final decision from the Paris Club on rescheduling of the U.S.1.9 billion dollar debt.

Wilson said that rescheduling achieved so far had already relieved Trinidad and Tobago of paying back 650 million dollars (one TT dollar;23.5 cents). Wilson said that, in the absence of the rescheduling agreements, Trinidad and Tobago's debt service would account for 36 per cent of the value of total merchandise exports this year, rising to 42 per cent by 1990.

"This in a situation where the country is facing a serious shortage of foreign exchange for the importation of essential foodstuff, drugs, and raw materials and capital inputs," Wilson said.

"It should be made clear that the precondition for these rescheduling agreements, both with the commercial banks and with the Paris Club, is a standby arrangement with the International Monetary Fund." "While they are not overtly linked, a country's access to programme loans from the World Bank and the IDB (Inter-American Development Bank) is greatly facilitated by a standby arrangement with the IMF.

"This is the reality of the international financial relations in 1988 and those who feel they can reschedule their external debt or raise non-project resources from the multilateral lending institutions without the IMF involvement do not understand the inter-locking nature of the international financial system.

Illegal Fishing Protest Lodged With Barbados

FL2912144388 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Trinidad and Tobago have lodged a strong protest with Barbados over illegal fishing by Barbadian fishermen. On December 15th, Trinidad and Tobago's Defense Force claims it spotted a number of Barbadian fishing vessels in waters controlled by the Trinidadian Government. The two countries have been working on a treaty to allow fishing in each others waters but that has not been finalized as yet. Meanwhile, Barbados' Government has apologized for the incident and is reminding its fishermen not to venture into Trinidadian waters under penalty of law.

Manufacturers Allowed To Keep Foreign Accounts

FL2912210288 Bridgetown CANA in English 1642 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Dec 29, CANA—Trinida;d and Tobago manufactureres who earn the majority of their foreign exchange needs will be allowed to maintain foreign accounts locally under a new exchange system.

The new regime was outlined briefly by Junior Finance Minister Selby Wilson in the Senate. The Central Bank is to give details of the system on Thursday, officials at the bank said. Wilson said that the new regime was geared at stimulating export manufacturing and offsetting the shortages caused this year by a slump in foreign reserves.

Local manufacturers earning at least 80 per cent of their foreign exchange import needs would be allowed to retain foreign accounts at local banks. Priority will also be given to local producers of inputs into the production process of export manufacturers.

Wilson said a basic allocation of 110 per cent of 1988 foreign exchange allocations is to be given to importers of basic food, drug, machinery spares and parts, and agricultural inputs.

This year, cuts in all foreign exchange allocations had caused a shortage of a number of basic goods including milk.

The new system comes against the backdrop of Trinidad and Tobago receiving TT470 million dollars (one TT dollar; 23.5 U.S. cents) in balance of payments support for its loss of oil revenue from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Most of the IMF money, accessed through the Fund's Compensatory Financing Facility (CFF), will be used to bolster the country's foreign reserves which plunged in July of this year.

Since then, the country has been virtually living on lines of credit. Trinidad and Tobago expects a further allocation of another 470 million dollars under an IMF standby facility.

Ambassador Appointed to U.S., Mexico, OAS

FL2912215588 Bridgetown CANA in English 2350 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Dec 28, CANA—A personnel manager and ruling party activist has been named as Trinidad and Tobago's new ambassador to Washington, the External Affairs Ministry said Wednesday.

Angus Khan, currently a personnel manager with the state-owned Trinidad and Tobago Petroleum Company, is to replace former ambassador, Reginald Dumas. Dumas returned home this month to take up his new job as head of Trinidad and Tobago's public service.

The new ambassador has served locally with political parties formerly organised around A.N.R. Robinson, now prime minister. On a professional level, Khan holds degrees in geology, physics, and education, and has worked as a teacher and in research at another state-run oil company.

Khan will serve as both ambassador to the United States, the Organisation of American States, and Mexico.

Salvadoran, Korean Citizens To Be Deported

FL3012040688 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2231 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Dec (NOTIMEX)— The immigration service of the Mexico City international airport has reported that 22 Korean and 18 Salvadoran citizens who arrived in Mexico with false documentation will be deported today to their respective countries of origin. The immigration service also added that the foreigners are being detained by immigration personnel in the international flight section of the Benito Juarez airport in Mexico City, while they await their flight out of the country.

These foreign citizens were trying to get to the United States but were detained upon their arrival when they presented falsified identification, which they received in their countries of origin, from travel agents who attempt to benefit from these people's need to work, said the immigration service.

PFCRN Members Clash With Police in Morelia

FL2912200588 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1915 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Morelia, Mexico 29 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Police and members of the opposition Cardenist Front for National Reconstruction Party [PFCRN] clashed here today when party members attempted to take over city hall to protest local authorities.

At least 1,000 PFCRN members from various Michoacan townships, led by Deputies Octavio Ortiz Melgarejo, Gilberto Gonzalez Gonzalez, and Raul Reyes tried to take over city hall this morning. The confrontation with the preventive police left one wounded.

Several contingents arrived in this city at around 1100. They went to city hall crying out slogans asking for the dismissal of several mayors and Governor Jaime Genovevo Figueroa Zamudio.

Police prevented them from entering city hall. A rumpus broke out in which an elderly man from Zacapu was wounded and had to be sent to the civilian hospital for medical attention. Several PFCRN members were left inside the building because the doors were closed.

For his part, Deputy Octavio Ortiz Melgarejo said, much to the leaders' regret, that this situation can no longer be controlled and they fear a tragedy could occur. He added that the blood of the Cardenist elderly man has stirred up everyone's emotions.

He asserted that this was the work of former Michoacan Governor Martinez Villicana, who favored hitting and insulting the Cardenist members. Although the situation is different with Genovevo Figueroa, he has not complied with the promises of dismissing the mayors who have not behaved honestly in their posts.

Several women and peasants from Patzcuaro said if no answer has been given to their demands and if the peasants who are inside city hall are not released by 1500, they will throw bombs, which they have already prepared, into the building.

Brazilian, Egyptian Citizens Detained for Drugs

FL2912235588 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2447 GMT 22 Dec 88

[Summary] Mexico City, 22 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Members of the Federal Judicial Police have detained a Brazilian woman at the Mexico City international airport who was attempting to take 100 grams of pure cocaine into the country. Marli Aparecida Christafis, who was carrying a Brazilian passport, said she was going to give the drugs to (Mah Mond Kourany Hassadou), an Egyptian citizen who was waiting for her at the airport. The two detainees were placed at the disposition of the Federal Public Ministry while the Attorney General's Office continues investigations to find other possible accomplices.

Oaxaca Authorities Report Drug Statistics

PA2712130588 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Dec 88

[Summary] According to the Oaxaca Attorney General's Office, Oaxaca is the 5th largest drug-producing state. The Oaxaca Attorney General's Office has said that the principal drug producing states are Michoacan, Jalisco, Sinaloa, and Guerrero.

The Attorney General's Office added that during the last 11 months in Oaxaca, the Federal Judicial Police, in cooperation with the Mexican Army, destroyed 3,333 marijuana plants and confiscated more than 17 tons of dried marijuana, 77 kg of marijuana seeds, and more than 6 kg of cocaine. The police also destroyed 338 poppy plantations and confiscated 16 kg of opium and 10 kg of poppy seeds.

Authorities Confiscate Drugs Throughout Country

PA2512160888 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Dec 88 p 6

[Summary] The Mexican Attorney General's Office has reported that the Mexican Federal Judicial Police confiscated over 2,000 kg of marijuana in three different operations conducted in the states of Chihuahua, Baja California, and Zacatecas.

The report adds that eight alleged drug traffickers were arrested in Chihuahua State and four more were arrested in Mexicali, Baja California State. In Zacatecas, the Federal Judicial Police also confiscated one .45-caliber pistol and arrested four drug traffickers.

Police Confiscate Cocaine

PA2512125888 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 19 Dec 88 p 3

[Summary] Border patrol officers at Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, announced on yesterday having detained a suspect with 600 kg of cocaine worth up to $38 million.

Seize Cocaine, Detain Two

PA2612042988 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 20 Dec 88 p 2

[Summary] Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, 19 Dec— On the El Paso-Los Angeles Interstate Highway 10, the border police have seized 856 kg of cocaine worth more than 200 billion pesos, and they detained two Mexican judicial agents near Anthony, Texas, according to border police Deputy Director Gustavo de la Vina. In addition, the police detained two U.S. citizens presumed to be linked to the Medellin Cartel, but their names have been withheld.

Marijuana, Cocaine Burned

FL3012041188 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0029 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] Guadalajara, Mexico, 27 Dec (NOTIMEX)— Members of the Mexican Army have incinerated 9 tons of marijuana and 1 ton of cocaine during the last burning of drugs this year in the state of Jalisco.

The commander of the 15th military zone of Jalisco, Division General Vinicio Santoyo Feria, said that the drugs were confiscated this month by the Army and the Attorney General's Office in different operations. At that time, he added, they detained 114 civilians, including drug traffickers and planters of marijuana.

El Salvador

New Anticommunist Groups Announce Formation

PA2912143888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1040 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 29 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—Three self-styled anticommunist organizations that have threatened guerrilla, labor union, and opposition leaders have announced their formation in El Salvador in the last few days.

The Central American Anticommunist Hand [Mano Anticomunista Centroamericana] (MACA), which was created in Guatemala and which has expanded to San Salvador, made its appearance yesterday, Wednesday, issuing a warning in its first communique that "condemns to death all devil worshippers, communist diplomats, and other followers."

The Eastern Anticommunist Command [Comandos Orientales Anticomunistas] (COA) also made its public appearance yesterday and issued a communique stating that they will "execute" all communists in eastern El Salvador, one of the most troublesome areas since the war began 8 years ago.

Last Monday, the Revolutionary Anticommunist Extermination Action (ARDE) announced its formation. It is an organization that maintains that the Salvadoran Armed Forces "are incapable of stopping the terrorist actions of the communist vandals."

Different sources consulted by ACAN-EFE regarding the proliferation of anticommunist organizations have all said that "one must be careful with these groups because on previous occasions they have carried out their promises." [passage omitted]

Bomb Destroys Lutheran Church in San Salvador

PA3012011388 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] The Resurrection Lutheran Church on 5 November Street in San Salvador was bombed by suspected death squad members today. The Lutheran Church is headed by Bishop Medardo Gomez, who has always worked hard to help the needy and all those who are suffering as a result of the war. The Lutheran bishop has been threatened by members of the death squads, who do not believe in the work he is doing to help the people. The attack was carried out early this morning. According to the reports, the powerful bomb practically destroyed the entire church.

Nicaragua

Government Condemns U.S. 'Threats' on Libya

PA3012010388 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government yesterday expressed its concern over the U.S. threats to bomb Libya because of the alleged existence of a chemical weapons factory near Tripoli. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry issued a communique stating that the Managua government adds its solidarity to that expressed by the African and Arab countries regarding Libya's right, and the rights of the other peoples of the world, to live in peace.

In its communique, the Nicaraguan Government, which maintains strong ties with the Libyan Government, states that this kind of threat endangers international peace and safety. In conclusion, the Foreign Ministry states that only total respect for international law and the basic principles of peaceful coexistence will make world peace possible.

The United States bombed Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's residence in April 1986, killing the Arab leader's daughter. Washington has accused Libya of having the biggest chemical weapons factory in the Third World and claims the alleged factory is 56 km southeast of Tripoli.

44 Repatriated; 80 Refugees Stay in Honduras

PA3012023288 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2349 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Managua, 29 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—Forty-four Nicaraguan civilians and military personnel, who were among the 104 Sandinists freed by "contra" guerrillas on 23-24 December in Honduran territory, today returned to Nicaragua.

The government-run radio station reported that the 44 who were freed were handed over by the Honduran Red Cross to the Nicaraguan Red Cross at the "Las Manos" border post in Nueva Segovia Department, with Managua government-military personnel and civilians looking on.

The repatriated citizens were taken today to their respective homes in state-supplied vehicles, the source added.

Honduran Red Cross officials said that only 44 Nicaraguans decided to return to their country. The remaining 80 [number as received] opted to remain in Honduras as refugees. [passage omitted]

TELCOR, Bulgaria Sign Improvement Agreement

PA3012033788 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 27 Dec 88

[Text] For the first time in Nicaragua's history, peasants living in rural areas will have telecommunications services that will help them overcome the isolation they have always experienced.

Leopoldo Rivas, minister of the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services [TELCOR], reported that through an agreement signed with Bulgaria, 14 telephone exchanges will be acquired for installation in remote rural areas, such as along the southern portion of the Atlantic Coast, Rio San Juan Department, and other areas.

In areas far from the department capitals, radiotelegraph equipment will be installed first, as well as 80 single-channel rural telephone systems, which will begin to arrive in January 1989.

Rivas explained that TELCOR does its best to keep communications equipment in good repair all over the country; however, this has been a difficult task because despite having overcome some telephone exchange technical difficulties, there are now new problems, such as old, worn-out cables.

Panama

Ritter on Border Issue, Ambassador's Resignation

PA2912140488 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter has stated that the Costa Rican Government has agreed to appoint a binational commission to settle its border problems with Panama.

[Begin Ritter recording] Following the latest incident, General Noriega sent me a note in which he states some of the steps that the Panama Defense Forces will take to avoid this type of problem in the future. Above all, he asked me to notify the Costa Rican Government that Panamanian police authorities had no intention of violating the border—much less of harming relations between our two countries.

I talked with Costa Rican Foreign Minister Dr Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto during the UN General Assembly and we both agreed to create a binational commission to settle all border problems.

Following the incident which involved a Costa Rican minister, Dr Madrigal Nieto wrote me a letter saying he was surprised about the whole issue. Our Foreign Ministry's reply stated that Panama had already formed its commission, headed by the deputy minister of government and justice, and comprised of the Foreign Ministry's border director and the Chiriqui Military Zone commander. [end recording]

Referring to the case of Ambassador Marcel Salamin, Foreign Minister Ritter said:

[Begin recording] [Ritter] He has presented his resignation as ambassador to Venezuela. Also, he had previously requested a vacation, which ended on 23 December—the date when he concluded his mission as ambassador. I do not think a resignation is worthy of mention or special attention.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, a news agency reported that Dr Salamin said he resigned because he disagreed with the country's policy. Does the Foreign Ministry have any information about this?

[Ritter] No. Many times there are differences concerning a country's foreign service and other public activities. This includes the way in which a country's foreign policy is handled or, in Panama's case, the way in which its internal policy is handled. However, this does not represent a highly significant issue.

Dr Marcel Salamin has been part of the Panamanian Government for many years. He served as General Omar Torrijos' personal assistant and adviser, and he has been ambassador to several countries. I am sure that Dr Salamin will still be part of our government in some other post, or even without a public position. He will still work on government matters and support the Panamanian Government with his position, writings, and political activities.

The fact that he presented his resignation—regardless of the reasons—does not mean he has severed his ties to the government or that he will have no further links to the government's tasks. [end recording]

Government Delays Full Payment of Dec Salaries

PA2912152088 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 29 Dec 88 p A-1

[Communique issued by Finance and Treasury Minister Orville K Goodin in Panama City; date not given]

[Text] Regarding the payment of salaries for the second half of December, it is deemed advisable to announce to public employees that, taking into account the imbalance [desfase] of the first half of December and the expenses that Panamanians traditionally incur during the New Year festivities, public officials will be paid a $75 advance of their salaries for the second half of this month. This advance will be paid in full, without any deductions. The remaining balance will be paid on Friday, 6 January 1989, when the December salary cycle will have been completed, and thus the 1988 fiscal year will have ended.

Legislative Assembly Rejects 1989 General Budget
PA2912202188 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 29 Dec 88 pp 1, B-6

[Report by Claudio Herrera Jimenez; quotation marks as published]

[Excerpts] The Legislative Assembly's Budget Commission yesterday rejected the proposed 1989 general budget. Therefore, the executive branch will make the necessary adjustments that the crisis demands.

Legislator Rigoberto Paredes, who heads the commission, told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA that the decision was made "because most legislators felt the bill did not meet the needs of the various ministries, autonomous agencies, and legislative branch."

He said the rejection of the budget was not due to a confrontation with the executive branch, adding that "it was a strategic measure to guarantee the necessary flexibility to make gradual budget adjustments during a time of crisis."

Paredes said the executive branch has had to present a contingency budget for 400 million balboas, a sum that the United States has withheld in an "arbitrary and arrogant" action.

Asked what measures the government plans to adopt to balance the budget, Paredes said that he has learned about a possible reduction of wages in the public sector. [passage omitted]

Paredes stressed that Panama is facing a war economy and accused the United States and the groups supporting its aggression of trying to destabilize this Central American country."

Paredes said that with yesterday's rejection of the proposed budget, "we believe we will be in a better position to find solutions to our problems in order to prevent the country's destabilization.

According to Paredes, the United States and bad Panamanians who support its activities against Panama have not been successful in their attempts to destabilize the country. He predicted that future attempts will also fail.

The 1989 budget presented by the executive branch totaled 1.5 billion balboas, which is 50 percent less than the current 1987 [as published] budget, which totals 3 billion balboas. [passage omitted]

Regarding the actions taken by the national government to cope with the abnormal situation, Paredes said Panama has urged friendly countries to demand an end to the aggression against Panama. In addition, Panama is diversifying its economy and its links with other countries, he said.

In view of the situation, the 1987 budget will remain in effect; however, it must be submitted to the Legislative Assembly with the necessary modifications requested by the executive branch.

PdP Secretary General Wants Political Alliance
PA2912235988 Panama City MEDIODIA in Spanish 27 Dec 88 p 10

[Text] Ruben Dario Souza, secretary general of the People's Party [PdP] Central Committee, has sent a note to Luis Gaspar Suarez, president of the Revolutionary Panamenist Party, stressing the "urgent" need of establishing a broad and patriotic alliance made up of persons who "will not place their exclusive and particular interests above the injured nation's real needs."

In his letter, the Panamanian communist leader explains that "all members of the alliance must be prepared to put aside their personal greed and admit that cohesion is only possible if there is mutual respect and if the rights of others are respected."

Ruben Dario Souza proposes the drafting of an agenda aimed at organizing a patriotic national liberation movement in light of the upcoming 1989 presidential elections.

Progovernment Parties Membership Figures Released
PA3012025488 Panama City MEDIODIA in Spanish 27 Dec 88 p 11

[Text] The political strength of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) has been reduced to just 10,578 more members than the rest of the progovernment parties, whose collective political power increased during November to a little more than 180,000 party members, according to a report prepared by the Electoral Tribunal's Systems Directorate.

The official report states that in November, the Labor Party, with 83,138 registered members, headed a list of progovernment parties—including the Liberal Party, the Republican Party, and the Revolutionary Panamenist Party—whose total membership is a mere 10,578 less than the PRD, which now has only 191,618 registered members.

Political analysts began to give this matter serious thought after the so-called "popular forces," most of whom are PRD supporters, began a confrontation with the government early in December as a result of the government employees' failure to have their labor grievances redressed. This confrontation came after the labor unions became distanced from the government over the implementation of policies requiring economic and other sacrifices from these workers.

The People's Party, the main inspiration of the so-called "popular forces," so far has declined to make any statement in favor of the PRD.

Argentina

Caputo Calls UK Meeting 'Exploratory Dialogue'

PY2912173088 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1401 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Dec (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today said that the meeting he held as president of the UN General Assembly with the UN British representative was an exploratory dialogue. He added: In this regard I believe that the meeting fulfilled its mission. Let us hope it can continue.

He said that 1988 was a year for consolidating our links with the international community. Caputo said progress has been made in strengthening relations with some countries, such as Italy and Spain. He also noted the integration treaty signed with Brazil.

Caputo indicated that routine Argentine presence at international meetings will help the country's development. He said that 1989 will be an election year and that this has great repercussion at the international level.

He added that 1989 will be a year of transition and debate of domestic policies and that our international policy will be one of the main issues of that debate.

In answer to a question, Caputo said that the military demands to the government created world concern and some loss of international prestige, but that it also made the world aware of the people's response to the defense of society and democratic instittuions.

Caputo made these comments at the government palace after meeting with President Raul Alfonsin. He said that the military demands also made the world aware of the existence in Argentina of an Armed Forces that advocate democratic order despite the fact that there are sectors in the Armed Forces that made demands.

List of New Army Leadership Released

PY2912182288 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1547 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Dec (DYN)—With the appointments made by Army Chief of Staff General Francisco Gassino, the Army leadership has now been confirmed with the sole exception of the director of planning.

The new Army leadership is:

Army Chief of Staff:	General Francisco Gassino.
Deputy Chief of Staff:	General Valentino Venier.
Army Inspector General:	General Alfredo Arrillaga.
General Director of Military Institutes:	General Martin Balza.
Director of Superior Institutes:	General Oscar Salomon.
Director of Specialized Training Institute:	Colonel Gerardo Rivas (recommended for promotion).
Commander II Corps:	General Isidro Caceres.
Commander III Corps:	General Martin Bonnet.
Commander IV Corps:	General Jorge O'Higgings.
Commander V Corps:	General Osvaldo Cordoba.
Deputy Director of Military Fabrications:	General Jose Torres.
Director of Production of Military Fabrications:	Colonel Remetin (recommended for promotion).
Director of Development of Military Fabrications:	Colonel Atilio Forzano.
Chief of "C" area of Joint Staff (planning):	General Eugenio Dalton.
Chief of Operations of Joint Staff:	Colonel Jorge Gomez Sabaini (recommended for promotion).
Director of Programming of Army Staff:	General Horacio Canestro.
Chief of Personnel of Army Staff:	Colonel Francisco Salas (recommended for promotion).
Chief of Intelligence of Army Staff:	General Eduardo Cardozo.
Chief of Operations of Army Staff:	Colonel Enrique Laurenti (recommended for promotion).
Chief of Logistics of Army Staff:	Colonel Ricardo Mataloni.
Director of Institutional Matters:	Colonel Eduardo Fiorda (recommended for promotion).
Director General for Support:	General Pablo Skalany.
Director of Planning of Army Staff:	to be appointed.
Military Attache to the United States:	General Mario Diaz.
Deputy Army Inspector General:	Colonel Juan Carlos Grande (recommended for promotion).
Commander of the 1st Armored Cavalry Brigade:	Colonel Maximo Groba (recommended for promotion).
Commander of 2d Armored Cavalry Brigade:	General Hugo Fernandez.
Commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Hector Arias (recommended for promotion).
Deputy commander of the 4th Airborne Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Artemio Barreiro (acting commander).
Commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Carlos Quevedo (recommended for promotion).
Commander of the 6th Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Jorge Maffey (recommended for promotion).
Commander of the 8th Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Hector Martinez.
Deputy Commander of the 9th Infantry Brigade:	Colonel David Comini (acting commander).
Commander of the 10th Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Jorge Alperin (recommended for promotion).
Commander of the 11th Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Jorge Apa (recommended for promotion).
Commander of the 12th Infantry Brigade:	Colonel Miguel Armua.

Arsenals Director:	General Hector Gargiulo.
Director of Quartermaster:	Colonel Victor Gomez (recommended for promotion).
Director of Finance:	General Miguel Di Cio.
Director of Medical Corps:	General Dr. Jorge Morera.
Deputy Director of Army Accounting Department:	Colonel Carlos Bertucci (acting director).
Army Legal Advisor:	Auditor General Alberto Borla.
Director of Veterinary and Cavalry Horses:	Colonel Juan Neyertz.
Director of Communications:	Colonel Luis Andrada.
Director of the Military School:	Colonel Diego Soria (recommended for promotion).

Bolivia

Ministers Call 1988 Achievements 'Positive'

PY2912150688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0149 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] La Paz, 28 Dec (EFE)—The Bolivian Government today stressed the achievements of 1988, especially those in the economic and political sectors.

In a news conference, seven ministers of President Victor Paz Estenssoro's government referred to the activities carried out in their sectors, and they agreed that 1988 has been "positive."

Planning Minister Fernando Romero stated that the economic reactivation process has begun, and that the Bolivian economy is "growing."

Romero added that this has been achieved despite the fact that the inflation rate was higher this year than what was earlier predicted by the government. He said 1988 will end with an inflation rate of almost 21 percent.

Labor and Labor Development Minister Alfonso Pena stated that the executive branch has solved many problems through dialogue. He added that the number of strikes and non-worked days has decreased "substantially" from August 1985 to date.

He admitted, however, that the purchasing power of the real salary dropped by 24 percent during 1988.

Other important events stressed by the ministers were the rescheduling and "repurchase" of the debt owed to bilateral creditors and other banks and the resumption of productive operations at several state mines.

They also reported that as part of the plan for the struggle against drug trafficking, 2,900 hectares of coca crops were eradicated through a policy where farmers reportedly received $2,600 for each eradicated hectare.

Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran has reported that in 1988 10 tons of cocaine were seized, 687 people involved in the production and trafficking of narcotics were detained, and 1,400 clandestine factories and laboratories were destroyed.

The COB has promised to release an annual summary of the economic, political, and social situation in the country tomorrow. COB leaders have condemned the government policy.

Brazil

December Inflation Rate Reaches 28.79 Percent

PY2912003188 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Excerpt] The December inflation rate stands at 28.79 percent. This is the highest rate not only this year but in the economic history of Brazil. The rate, which surpassed the 25-percent limit established by the Social Pact, is also higher than the October rate, which amounted to 27.25 percent.

The data was released today by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics. The 1988 accumulated inflation rate has surpassed 900 percent. [passage omitted]

Trade Surplus to Total $19 Billion for 1988

PY3012020988 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Dec 88 p B-4

[Text] According to the document "Brazil Economic Program," which was released by the Central Bank and will be sent to the IMF, Brazil will close 1989 with a trade surplus totalling $14.5 billion, compared to the $19 billion registered in 1988.

The document forecasts that the foreign debt will amount to $114.941 billion, compared to the 1987 debt of $121.174. This reduction is a result of the dollar rate increase and of the debt coversion operations. The document also forecasts that the net national investments abroad will total $2.35 billion, $50 million of which will be new money. Regarding the payment of interest on the debt, the country is expected to pay $10.9 billion in interests.

Federal Police Seize Cocaine, Burn Marijuana

PY3012020088 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] In the last few days, Federal Police seized 290 kg of marijuana in Mato Grosso do Sul during several operations in the interior of the state and near the borders with Paraguay and Bolivia. Many of the drug traffickers were arrested aboard the train that connects Ponta Pora to Corumba.

In Corumba, police detained a couple carrying 2 kg of pure cocaine.

Police burned 890 tons of marijuana in the oven of a sawmill in Barra Velha County, Santa Catarina State. The marijuana had been seized 3 months ago as it was being transported by a truck with a license from Presidente-Prudente, Sao Paulo State. Civil and Military policemen watched the marijuana being burned. This was the largest quantity of marijuana ever seized in Santa Catarina State.

Chile

Sweden Cancels Agreement Abolishing Need for Visa

PY2912235488 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] The Swedish Government has derogated the agreement abolishing the need for visas between Sweden and Chile. This new measure will be implemented as of 1 January 1989. From now on all Chilean citizens wishing to visit Sweden will require visas.

This information was released through an official press communique issued by the Swedish Embassy, explaining that the purpose of the measure is to prevent the complex problem that immigration of a great number of Chileans has created.

The communique states that approximately 4,000 Chileans have requested political asylum in Sweden during 1987, and that some 3,300 Chilean immigrants are expected this year. More than 30,000 people of Chilean decent currently live in Sweden.

The communique issued by the Swedish Embassy adds that it has been proven that the great majority of Chileans who arrived in Sweden during the past few years came mainly for socioeconomic reasons, such as looking for a job. This situation has worsened because of the false impression that Sweden is apparently seeking to hire immigrants, and that for socioeconomic conditions Chileans are granted residence permits.

The communique then states that some tourist agencies have taken advantage of this situation and have sold tickets to Sweden in a package that includes forged documents. This has caused many very regrettable personal tragedies.

Chileans may contact the Swedish Embassy on phone numbers 495052 and 495053 for further information.

Bombs Explode in Vina del Mar, Quilpue

PY2912175988 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Last night three bombs exploded in Vina del Mar and Quilpue, and a bus was burned in Port Aisen.

The first bomb exploded on the corner of 1st North Avenue and Los Pinos Street. Here criminal elements bombed a post, destroying it and damaging nearby windows.

The second bomb exploded at Km 167 of the railroad track near Valencia, in Quilpue. The bomb contained ammonium gelignite, and the explosion damaged the train station, the tracks, and some windows.

The third bomb exploded near Km 12 of the main highway, in El Belloto, damaging three buildings.

In Puerto Aisen unidentified individuals burned a private bus.

Five FPMR Terrorists Arrested in Concepcion

PY3012004188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Five Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] members have been detained following the discovery of a small arsenal in northern Concepcion.

The Carabineros raided a house at 1755 Juan de Dios Rivera Street in Concepcion. They found about 100 hand grenades, a bayonet, a pistol, detonators, ammunition, and other explosive items.

According to a police report, the house was raided on the orders of the military prosecutor's office. The report indicates that the small arsenal was hidden inside a plastic drum and old sewer pipes buried at a depth of 1.3 meters.

Departing Santiago Mayor Sends Letter to Pinochet

PY3012015188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Gustavo Alessandri, the Santiago mayor who has been asked to resign, has sent an open letter to the president of the Republic.

In the letter, the former Santiago mayor expresses his sincere appreciation for the opportunity the president gave him to serve the Santiago community. He says he has tried to serve their needs promptly, always inspired by the paramount tenets of impartiality, justice, and progress, which have been characteristic of the current government.

The letter adds: You may rest assured, Your Excellency, that I will make my best effort next year, which is so crucial for the future of Chile, to hold to the progressive path that you as president have established both for Santiago residents and for the entire country.

Finally, Gustavo Alessandri reaffirmed to the president his unyielding support for the principles he has always supported and will continue to support in the future.

Air Force To Study Hole in Ozone Layer

PY2912234388 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] The Chilean Air Force [FACh] will open a laboratory at the Teniente Marsh base to study the problems that the hole in the ozone layer could cause.

This information was disclosed by the FACh Chief of Staff General General Ramon Vega who presided at the annual ceremony of FACh Unit 10.

He said that the hole in the ozone layer in southern Chile does not represent a threat to the Chileans stationed at the Antartic bases.

Vega said that our people are living without any problems at the Teniente Marsh base where we are carrying out a very intense Antartic development program.

Colombia

Liberal Party Deputy Kidnapped in Santander

PA3012010888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0009 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Bogota, 28 Dec (EFE)—Colombian Liberal Party Deputy Gustavo Silva Gomez was kidnapped last night by a group of unidentified persons while leaving his clinic in Ocana, Santander Department, in the northeastern part of the country. This was disclosed by Silva Gomez' family.

Silva Gomez' niece told local radio stations that at approximately 2200 on Tuesday (0300 GMT Wednesday), the kidnappers telephoned his family "demanding a large sum of money in exchange for his release." The deputy's niece added that the politician had not been threatened and that he is well liked by the people of Ocana.

The authorities today launched a major operation to rescue Silva Gomez and capture the kidnappers. The police said they do not know whether the kidnapping was carried out by common criminals or by some guerrilla group.

ELN Rebels Attack Police Barracks; 4 Killed

PA2912154688 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Report by Clara Ines Pena]

[Text] Chiriri, Tolima— Approximately 80 percent of the ELN [National Liberation Army] fighters who attacked this town were women, and they were led by Commander Libertad, according to local residents. Municipal authorities reported that one policeman and three civilians were killed, and three policemen were wounded during the attack.

The rebels, who identified themselves as members of the ELN's Camilist Union, attacked the police barracks. However, 20 policemen returned the fire and repelled the attack by some 200 rebels.

The police have identified the three civilians who died: Elmer Castro Valderrama, Celina Rodriguez Saavedra, and Guillermo Tarija. They were killed by the rebels during the attack on the police barracks—which were partially destroyed.

More than 300 members of the police and the Army's antiguerrilla forces are now patrolling the area and maintaining public order. They have also launched an operation in the San Lucas mountain range, where the rebels have hidden.

Government Announces 24 Percent Fuel Price Hike

PA2912133388 Paris AFP in Spanish 0124 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Bogota, 28 Dec (AFP)—The Colombian Government hiked fuel prices an average of 24 percent following a difficult year in the industry due to a drop in international oil prices and terrorist attacks on the country's main oil pipeline.

The price of kerosene, used by the poor for cooking, was increased by 92 percent. The cost had remained unchanged during the last 8 years.

A gallon of regular gasoline now costs $0.58, while premium now costs $0.72 a gallon.

Despite Colombia being self-sufficient and even exporting oil, it must import gasoline from Mexico and Venezuela because of refining limitations.

During the past year, 8.292 million barrels of fuel were imported, with domestic demand higher than expected, which, according to Mines and Energy Minister Oscar Mejia, is a factor that influenced the gasoline price hike,

The government warned that the gasoline price adjustment "should not have an immediate effect on other prices, such as public transport and freight rates," which were recently increased.

Peru

Daughter of Shining Path Leader Morote Arrested

PY2812220588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] An alleged relative of Osman Morote, the second-in-command in the Shining Path, was arrested last night in the Miraflores neighborhood near the home of Senate President Romualdo Biaggi.

According to unofficial information (Sigma Emi Morote), 26, was arrested together with (Willy Severo Manriquez), 23. They were in possession of two revolvers and subversive material, and they were arrested by security members of the Peruvian Navy who were guarding house No. 1930 on block No 3 of Los Angeles Avenue.

The security agents were suspicious of the couple, and after arresting them they took them to the Navy Intelligence Department. From there they were handed over to the Peruvian Investigative Police Antisubversive Department.

The police have confirmed the arrest of (Sigma Emi Morote), daughter of Osman Morote, the second-in-command of the Shining Path. She was arrested last night in the Miraflores neighborhood together with (Willy Severo Manriquez), in possesion of two revolvers and subversive material.

Two Peasants Die in Confrontation With Police
PY2812145588 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0414 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] Lima, 27 Dec (EFE)—Deputy Julio Castro has reported in Lima that 2 peasants died and 7 others were injured in a confrontation between a group of farmers and some 150 policemen in the northern Peruvian department of Piura.

The source added that the battle took place in the community of Montecastillo, Catacaos District, over land ownership problems between the townspeople and a local businessman.

Castro stated that Catacaos authorities have confirmed by telephone that two peasants died and seven were injured during the confrontation, and that the civil guards have detained an unspecified number of farmers.

Castro said he had no further details on the case, but he held the owner of a mill responsible for the incident, because by using his influence, as he said, the businessman took the police to "try to evict the peasants from their legally-owned land."

Castro added that Catacaos District has many peasant communities with approximately 40,000 inhabitants who mainly produce cotton and rice.

Terrorist Activities in Ayacucho Reported
PY2912145188 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0234 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Ayacucho, 28 Dec (EFE)—The military-political command of the emergency zone today reported that five Shining Path members and a government worker were killed in clashes in two towns of Ayacucho Department.

The report indicates that the Shining Path members were killed on 25 December at Yanamonte Hill in Tambo District, La Mar Province, in a clash with an Army patrol.

The report adds that the Army troops seized explosives and propaganda literature.

Police sources also indicated that government official Teofilo Orue of Vilcashuaman was murdered by Shining Path members on the night of 27 December during an attack on that small town.

The sources added that the terrorists wounded several people, dynamited and burned a government office and the municipality building, and blew up two vehicles belonging to the municipal council.

Tonight Ayacucho suffered another blackout caused, according to the police, by Shining Path members blowing up power pylons outside the city. [passage omitted]

Terrorist Group Attacks Civil Guard Post
PY2912213788 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish
1800 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] A terrorist group yesterday attacked the Civil Guard post in Huangascar, south of Yauyio, wounding one person and taking some policemen hostage. The fate of another seven people is still unknown.

There has been no official report on the attack, and the chief of Police, Juan Rojas Echavarria has refused to comment on the attack.

According to sources, the attack took place at 0715. The person who was wounded on the right cheek was taken to the police hospital.

Security Increased on High Tension Towers
PY2812145388 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0443 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Lima, 27 Dec (EFE)—The Peruvian Police today announced that it will strengthen security on high-tension towers, one of the main terrorist targets in Peru, on New Year's eve.

Civil Guards Director Lieutenant General Ruben Romero said that the number of police troops guarding the towers will be increased to prevent attacks that could cause blackouts in Lima and other areas. [passage omitted]

KLM Plane Delayed Due To Bomb Threat

PY2812182688 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1813 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Text] Lima, 28 Dec (TELAM-DPA)—A DC-10 of the Netherlands aviation company KLM has been retained in Lima for several hours in the security area of the local airport after an anonymous telephone call was received indicating that a bomb had been placed inside the plane.

The plane was about to depart for Curacao when the threat was received. The crew and 62 passengers were immediately evacuated. The plane was then towed to the security area, where it is being inspected.

Correction to Government Cuts Subsidies

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Government Cuts Subsidies; Grants Bonus" published in the 28 December Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 40, column two, paragraph two, last sentence: ...We will make this known to the country in time.

[new paragraph] [Reporter] Mr Minister, are we talking about some sort of minidevaluation?

[new paragraph] [Rivas] We are not...(providing dropped passage)

Uruguay

Communist Party Document on 21st Congress

PY2912124988 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish 15 Dec 88 p 5

["Text" of final declaration of Uruguayan Communist Party's 21st Congress which ended on 11 December 1988]

[Text] Less than 4 years ago, democracy was reestablished in this country. This event was marked by a historical explosion of joy, expressions of solidarity, and hope. During these 4 short years, Blancos and Colorados, who have been governing the country for 150 years, frustrated the national project for the construction of a prosperous, generous, and brotherly nation.

The ruling sector has opposed the desire to transform the country by creating the notion that Uruguay is the country "where everything is forbidden."

Uruguay now has to make a dramatic choice: It can use its economic, human, and cultural resources to begin a process to consolidate democracy, to make justice prevail at all levels, to promote national development, to implement real and profound changes aimed at solving its crisis and projecting the country toward the future; or it can continue with the current administration of misery and poverty that legitimizes the privileges of a very small group of "bad Uruguayans."

We communists hold this Congress to rescue Artigas' wish, as expressed in our national history and through the current people's struggle, that "the most destitute and unhappy become the most privileged."

We can build a new nation, but the unity of all democratic Uruguayans, particularly Broad Front [FA] members, is required for the implementation of this national, popular, and democratic project which will defend national sovereignty and confront the hesitations of the ruling classes.

The FA can rule this country, and to this end we make a call to all Uruguayans.

The country from which the youth emigrates, the country which offers no prospects or hopes, the country where misery and decadence prevail must stop regressing, and soon.

Our country can go back no further. We have no time left to believe in demagogic speeches or make bad choices in elections.

We must change this country or definitively sink into national recess and frustration. To prevent that, we intransigently defend the truth, justice, and the unfaltering decision to use all means possible to make the referendum a reality. The wonderful thing about all these decisions and diligence is that, in a few more months, we will be able to implement the changes we have been calling for for so long.

This will be a real possibility for reconciliation, because it will be a reconciliation with our history, with all our fellow countrymen, with our thirst for justice, with our hopes, with ourselves, and with the fatherland of Artigas, to which we have sworn love and loyalty.

That is why the communists have chosen the FA to live and to let Uruguay live, because as General Liber Seregni said to the 21st Congress, "Uruguay is uninhabitable without the FA."

At this time in our history, this 21st Congress is being held 11 months before a national election, for which we propose that the Broad Front sponsor companero Seregni as its single presidential candidate. During this election, there will be no ban on Seregni, on our party, or on other Broad Front sectors. This means that all Uruguayan political sectors will be able to participate and that they will all have the same rights.

More than any other congress in the history of our party, this congress is imbued with a sense of urgency, demand, and responsibility, because it is being held a few months before the elections and because the referendum on the full stop law—to which we should render our full support—will be held after our congress and before the elections.

Amid very difficult conditions, a possibility has been opened for the Broad Front to achieve a victory not only in Montevideo—which is very important—but all over the country, provided we make a joint, intelligent, and sustained effort. We will thus be confronting, on an equal basis, the Colorado and the Blanco parties in the race to govern.

Montevideo, 11 December 1988.

New Communist Executive Committee, Secretariat
PY2812215688 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish 15 Dec 88 p 5

[Text] As announced at the closing ceremony of the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of Uruguay [PCU], the newly-appointed Central Committee has held a meeting at which the PCU Executive Committee and its Secretariat were elected. Both bodies are made up as follows:

The Executive Committee comprises:

Jaime Perez as secretary general; Rodney Arismendi as Central Committee president; Daniel Baldassari, Leopoldo Bruera, Thelman Borges, Felix Diaz, Edgar Lanza, Leon Lev, Jose Luis Massera, Jorge Mazzarovich, Rafael Sanseviero, Juan Angel Toledo, Pedro Toledo, Andres Toriani, Esteban Valenti, and Eduardo Viera.

The Secretariat comprises:

Jaime Perez as secretary general; Edgar Lanza as secretary for organization; Esteban Valenti as secretary for propaganda; Nelson Garcia as finance secretary; Leon Lev as Montevideo Department secretary; Thelman Borges is in charge of trade union affairs; Jorge Mazzarovitch is in charge of movements of the masses.

PDC Suspends Participation in Broad Front
PY2912111288 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0238 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 28 Dec (EFE)—Uruguay's Christian Democratic Party (PDC) today decided to "suspend its participation in the executive structure" of the leftist coalition Broad Front "until it recovers its autonomy and its representatives."

This decision has been interpreted as a new step toward the almost definite split of the Broad Front, a coalition of 15 political forces that group social democrats, Christians, communists, Marxists, socialists, Maoists, Troskyites, and liberals. [passage omitted]

Trade Surplus Surpasses $167 Million for 1988
PY2912023088 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 16 Dec 88 p 14

[Summary] Banco de la Republica sources have reported that the Uruguayan trade surplus has surpassed $167 million during the first 11 months of 1988.

Exports increased by 14.4 percent and amounted to $1.181 billion, while imports totaled $1.014 billion.

Venezuela

Perez Receives Army Officers, Ambassadors
PA2812185288 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Dec 88

[Report by Maria Teresa Gutierrez; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] President-elect Carlos Andres Perez lunched with the Armed Forces High Command at Fort Tiuna. He issued statements on his plans to continue the Armed Forces's modernization and to participate in all the activities to develop the country.

President-elect Carlos Andres Perez arrived at 1300 sharp at the Defense Ministry, where the military high command was gathered to attend a courtesy lunch. The event was attended by General Italo del Valle Alliegro, minister of defense; General Julio Torres Uribe, Armed Forces inspector general; General Carlos Larrazabal, chief of the Armed Forces staff; General Jesus Maria Troconis, commander general of the Army; Vice Admiral Faustino Alvarado, commander general of the Navy; General Jesus Ramon Aveledo, commander general of the Armed Forces; and General Luis Ramon Contreras Laguado, commander general of the National Guard.

When the lunch was over President-elect Perez referred to the topics discussed during the event.

[Perez] "I intend to continue the tasks carried out by all the democratic governments of Venezuela; that is, to try to modernize our Armed Forces so they may always participate in every activity to develop our nation."

Asked if he would confirm the Armed Forces high command, Carlos Andres Perez said the question should be addressed to the country's president and not to him, because he is the president-elect. He also said his meeting with the Armed Forces officers had shown him how they had perfected the procedures to guarantee our sovereignty and peace.

Likewise, Defense Minister Gen Italo Del Valle Alliegro gave his views about the meeting.

[Del Valle] "It was simply an interesting chat between the Armed Forces high command and the Venezuelan people's president-elect."

However, this was not President-elect Perez' only activity. Early in the morning he met with various people at Las Delicias Tower. Former Panamanian Ambassador Marcel Salamin said that he notified Carlos Andres Perez that he had resigned on 24 December, and he explained the reasons for his decision.

[Salamin] "This decision is the result of a disagreement with the [Panamanian] foreign minister concerning our relations with Venezuela and other Latin American countries. Likewise, I do not share his views about some internal [Panamanian] problems."

Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Goncharenko also arrived at Las Delicias Tower and announced that a USSR Supreme Soviet vice president will lead the delegation sent for the presidential inauguration on 2 February. He did not rule out the possibility that Mikhail Gorbachev may visit Latin America, particularly our country, within the next 5 years. He also referred to our bilateral relations.

[Goncharenko] "Carlos Andres Perez is well known in the Soviet Union as a great president and internationalist. He personally helped develop our mutual relations during his first administration."

Meeting with the president-elect will continue at Las Delicias Tower on Wednesday; the first one will be with Otto Juan Reich, U.S. ambassador to Venezuela. Angela Cruz de Quintero, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party in Trujillo State, is also expected.

Guyana

IMF Loan Delayed; Foreign Debt Key Problem

FL2912234188 Bridgetown CANA in English 2202 GMT 29 Dec 88

[By Courtney Gibson]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 29, CANA—Guyana has run into snags which will delay the conclusion of a loan programme with the International Monetary fund (IMF) until possibly the middle of 1989, President Desmond Hoyte disclosed here Thursday.

Both Hoyte and Finance Minister Carl Greenidge spent more than an hour explaining to newsmen the circumstances which prevented an IMF-Guyana agreement from being finalised before yearend as envisaged by the government. They said a key difficulty was the failure of the international financial community to deal with Guyana's foreign debt, estimated at some U.S.1.7 billion dollars.

Without disclosing details, the president said that there must necessarily be some changes in the figures of Guyana's policy framework paper, which contains the government's Economic Recovery Programme (ERP), of which the IMF agreement is the centerpiece. This document has been considered by the IMF and the World Bank.

Also contributing to the delay were recent elections in the United States and Canada.

The November 21 elections in Canada, one of the bilateral donors which has undertaken to play a lead role in coordinating efforts to mobilise the required financial resources for Guyana's ERP, contributed to some slackening in the momentum, as officials failed to get political directions from ministers who were out on the hustings.

Also, Hoyte said, West Germany, which has indicated it will support Guyanas programme, now needed to seek parliamentary approval for the aid funds, since Guyana was not originally on the list of countries that benefit from Bonn's assistance.

"The hurdles (yet to be cleared) have nothing to do with the fund itself, the hurdles have to do with putting in place the financing which has to go along with the programme", the Guyanese president explained.

Greenidge said the multilateral financial institutions have not yet really got in place an arrangement for properly dealing with the question of Guyana's debt and countries such as Guyana that are seriously indebted to these institutions and which are not in a position to repay their arrears are in difficulty.

"If you owe the institutions you are not in a position to talk to them about a programme; if your are not in a position then the bilateral donors would want to say to you, well we can't help you until such time as you are in good standing with these multilateral institutions," Greenidge explained.

Greenidge said that a western financial meeting in Berlin in October was supposed to have addressed and resolved the problem, but had not come up with a definitive solution, although some suggestions had been made and these have now been pursued and explored.

Because of the delay, Guyana's 1989 budget, usually presented in January or February, is now expected to be deferred to about March, Hoyte said.

Of Guyana's external debt U.S.1.2 billion dollars is due owing and payable or will become so very soon.

The government, in keeping with its policy framework paper submitted to the fund and the World Bank late last year and subsequently endorsed by them, is seeking financial inflows totalling some U.S.550 million dollars.

Meanwhile, Hoyte announced that next meeting Guyana's western support group is scheduled to be held in Washington on January 10.

"We hope that after that meeting all elements of the financing arrangements will be in place and the stage would be set for the early finalisation of the fund arrangement," Hoyte told reporters.

Suriname

Brunswijk Says Intends To Arm Men Again

FL2912145888 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] In Suriname, rebel jungle commander Ronny Brunswijk said he has no more faith in the peace process of the Surinamese Government and says he intends to arm his men again.

Brunswijk Refuses To Return Hijacked Plane

FL3012030588 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 29 Dec 88

[Text] Terrorist leader Brunswijk will not return the hijacked Gum Air plane. This was disclosed in a telephone interview the DAILY DE WARE TIJD had with the terrorist leader. Brunswijk declared that he does not believe to be a strongman. He stated that the Jungle Commando, the terrorist group under his leadership, will acquire more weaponry.

The terrorist leader denied direct involvement with the hijacking of the plane. According to him, the aircraft was hijacked by the terrorist (Jakka). Brunswijk declared that he decided to confiscate the plane to use it as a means of pressuring the government. He is of the opinion that the government is not taking the peace process very seriously. He also denied allegations that his gang was involved in the attack at the military post at Albina at (Mongotapoe).

Brunswijk has, however, admitted that the gang hijacked the truck at [words indistinct] on the way to Albina. The assailants had at the time denied having any connection to the so-called Jungle Commando.

The government was, this morning, locked in an emergency meeting following the statements made by Brunswijk to the daily DE WARE TIJD.